

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on September 8, 2004, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1 and 6 are amended, claims 2 and 7 are canceled, and claims 13 and 14 are added; as a result, claims 1, 3-6, and 8-14 are now pending in this application.

Applicant submits that new claims 13 and 14 are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. New claims 13 and 14 capture additional claimable subject matter indicated to be allowable in connection with claims 3 and 8 in the present office action.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 4-6 and 9-10 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Smutek, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,526,445). Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner response to arguments submitted on September 18, 2003. Applicant reserves the right to address these remarks further in a continuation filing. Nonetheless, in the interest of furthering the prosecution of the present case, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 6 to incorporate the Examiner indicated allowable subject matter of claims 2 and 7, respectfully.

Accordingly, Applicant believes that independent claims 1 and 6 are presently in condition for allowance. For example, independent claims 1 and 6, as amended, recite “a determined halftone pattern over said source pixels that exhibits a repetition frequency that is less than a repetition frequency of said source pixels”. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 102 rejection for independent claims 1 and 6 is respectfully requested, as well as for those claims which depend therefrom.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-3 and 7-8 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in connection with the above claims. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2 and amended

independent claim 6 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 7. Claims 2 and 7 have been canceled.

Claims 11-12 have been allowed by the Examiner.

New Claims

New independent claims 13 and 14 capture additional claimable subject matter indicated to be allowable in connection with claims 3 and 8 in the present office action. Consideration and allowance for the same is respectfully requested upon review of this response.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (360) 212-0769 to facilitate prosecution of this matter.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 6th day of December, 2004.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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Date: 12/06/2004